

What is Claimed is

1. (deleted)

2. (amended) A humanized antibody specific for HBV surface antigen pre-S1, containing humanized heavy chain variable region which comprises amino acid sequence described by SEQ ID NO: 20.

3. (amended) A humanized antibody specific for HBV surface antigen pre-S1, containing humanized heavy chain variable region which comprises amino acid sequence described by SEQ ID NO: 21.

4. (amended) The humanized antibody of claim 3, wherein the humanized heavy chain variable region comprises an amino acid sequence which is modified from an amino acid residue of SEQ ID NO: 21 by at least one amino acid substitution selected from the group comprising

Lys ¹⁷ → Val ¹⁷ ,	Thr ²⁸ → Ala ²⁸ ,	Thr ³⁰ → Ser ³⁰ ,
Met ⁴⁷ → Ile ⁴⁷ ,	Arg ⁶⁷ → Lys ⁶⁷ ,	Val ⁶⁸ → Ala ⁶⁸ ,
Met ⁷⁷ → Leu ⁷⁷ ,	Val ⁷⁷ → Ala ⁷⁷ , and	Tyr ⁸⁵ → Phe ⁸⁵ .

AMENDED SHEET

5. (amended) A humanized antibody specific for HBV surface antigen pre-S1, containing humanized light chain variable region comprises amino acid sequence described by SEQ ID NO: 23.

6. A gene encoding humanized heavy chain which contains a humanized heavy chain variable region of claim 2, 3 or 4.

7. The gene of claim 6, wherein the humanized heavy chain variable region comprises amino acid sequence described by SEQ ID NO: 20:

8. The gene of claim 6, wherein the humanized heavy chain variable region comprises amino acid sequence described by SEQ ID NO: 21.

9. A gene encoding humanized light chain which contains a humanized light chain variable region comprising amino acid sequence described by SEQ ID NO: 23.

10. An expression vector containing the gene of claim 6.

11. The expression vector of claim 10, pCMV-HKR127HC, wherein the gene of claim 7 is inserted into pRC/CMV

AMENDED SHEET

